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Missouri State Capitol Commission selects Missouri-quarried stone for Capitol construction project

JEFFERSON CITY – The **Missouri State Capitol Commission** has selected a Missouri-quarried stone for the construction project underway on the Missouri State Capitol Building.

In March of this year, Phase II of the Capitol construction project began. Upon completion (anticipated in late 2020), the project will essentially extend the life of the building by improving the overall appearance, structural stability and water shedding capacity of the historic structure, ensuring that it can continue to be enjoyed by generations to come.

This week, the Missouri State Capitol Commission chose to use Phenix Marble, which will be quarried in southwest Missouri, for the project. The Carthage Marble stone — also originally quarried from southwest Missouri — is currently on all facades, the dome and drum of the Capitol, but is no longer available to quarry.

At its meeting Wednesday, the Capitol Commission reviewed the three pre-selected stones that the design team considered using for any stone replacements necessary on the Capitol Building's facades, dome and drum. Over the past few weeks, crews installed the three stones in various locations on the building's north side for the Commission to review as mockups.

The three pre-selected stones were all from the Ozark Plateau, like the Carthage Marble. They were also similar in technical specification to the Carthage Marble. However, the stones have a few aesthetic and veining differences, prompting the need for the Commission's review of the mockups.

By reviewing the three stone mockups on the Capitol Building, the Commission was able to make a more educated decision on which stone works best aesthetically with the existing Carthage Marble.

Following the on-site review and an in-depth discussion with the design team, the Commission voted to use the Phenix Marble — a stone from a quarry in southwest Missouri. In addition to its use on the façade, dome and drum, the Phenix Marble will also be used on all of the terrace paver stone replacement, any balustrade replacement stone necessary as well as the on-grade pavers located on the north sidewalk approach toward the Capitol Building.

For the separate North Plaza project currently underway, Missouri Red Granite will be used for all the pavers. This will also be quarried out of Missouri and these new pavers will match those already installed around the Veterans Memorial.